

Assignment TV

By TERRENCE O'FLAHERTY

The word "adventure" has always had a fine ring to it. It suggests brave endeavors with daring goals in far-off places. On television it is too often confused with big-city crimes, small town Western brawls, or super-sleuths from UNCLE.

Two exceptions among the season's new shows are "Maya" and "Cowboy in Africa." They are adventurous in the old sense and because of this they are the only new series which are entirely suitable for young viewers. The adults are upstaged by animals, kids and scenery.

The premiere of "Maya" (NBC Saturday nights) was rich in its photography, musical background and the time allowed to establish the characters of its two stars, Jay North and Sajid Khan. The series is filmed entirely in India and the opening episode took full advantage of the exotic scenery both in city and jungle.

BOTH YOUNG actors appeared in the recent feature film "Maya" and their characters will be continued in this series. It is based on a young American lad who refuses to accept the story that his father has been killed on a big-game hunt with an Indian Prince.

Although all the evidence indicates that daddy is resting in disarray in the stomach of a man-eating tiger, young North runs away from the U. S. Consulate to seek him. In his flight he encounters a native boy who has an adventurous plan to return his elephant, Maya, to the jungle from which she was taken.

The splendid color scenery and the fine animal photography are incidental to the affectionate relationship of the two boys which really is the adhesive that holds this series together. Unfortunately, North is still playing a small

brat named "Dennis the Menace," but hopefully this will wear off. While we're waiting, his hard-edge mugging serves as an excellent foil for the gentleness of Khan, who has all the quiet assurance the role requires.

WHEN NORTH asks him to help seek and kill the man-eating tiger, Khan replies: "I do not believe in killing or revenge. . . . But we are friends and in this case my temper and my beliefs must travel on different roads."

The contrast between the American's frantic aggressiveness and the unsophisticated Indian's early maturity makes a statement that is applicable beyond the plot of a TV series.

"COWBOY IN AFRICA" (ABC Monday nights) counts heavily on the sure-fire combination of the scenic splendors of the Kenya country, the variety of its wild life and the appeal of a small African boy named Samson who idolizes the two American cowboys who have come to his country to capture wild animals with a lasso and pony.

There is a positive quality to "Cowboy in Africa" that is refreshing in the midst of Hollywood's unrelenting negativism.

"Cowboy in Africa" is based on a movie titled "Africa—Texas Style" and both the products of producer Ivan Tors who is also responsible for "Flipper" and "Daktari."

For this series Ivan Tors maintains two herds of animals—one in "Africa, USA" and another in Africa itself where a second film company shoots exteriors for the series. The actors—Chuck Connors, the "cowboy," Tom Nardini, his Indian sidekick; Ronald Howard, their boss (son of the late Leslie Howard); and 10-year-old Gerald Edwards do all their performing in Southern California.



PLAN CAMPAIGN . . . A. C. Quattlebaum, logistics liaison with the Aerospace Group of Hughes Aircraft Co., shows Doyle Wolfgang, United Crusade employe chairman of the Dow Chemical Co., two of the publicity items which he will be able to use in his employe campaign at the Harbor Area United Crusade to solicit area organizations for corporate gifts and to encourage corporation employe contribution programs.

United Crusade Begins Employe Drives in Area

Chairman of the employe fund drives for United Crusade at some 300 companies in the Harbor Area—which includes Torrance, Gardena, Wilmington, Harbor City, Lomita, San Pedro, and Palos Verdes Peninsula—will begin their company campaigns next week.

Many of the chairmen participated in an employe-chairmen orientation program last Thursday at the Smith Bros. Indian Village Restaurant here.

At the luncheon meeting, the volunteer drive chairmen, who are employes of the local companies with from 10 to 200 employes, learned about their roles in organizing and directing United Crusade drives among their employe groups during October and November.

The meeting, which was conducted by Robert A. Carmichael, Harbor Area United Crusade chairman of the commerce and industry division, featured "The Good Neighbors," a film about representative organizations receiving funds from United Crusade and about the importance of employe group participation in the outcomes of the total campaign. Campaign kits were distributed and discussed at the meeting.

In all of the Harbor Area, some 712 companies are so-

SURFACED ROADS
Connecticut, Delaware, and Maryland, according to the National Automobile Club, each now have more than 99 percent of their roads surfaced.

Southland Real Estate Activity Shows Increase

Southern California real estate activity increased between February and August, it was reported today by Security First National Bank.

Monthly gains totalling 49 per cent have been reflected on the Los Angeles County Index of Real Estate Activity compiled by Security Bank's Economic Research Department.

Statistics from various sectors of the Southland real estate market also substantiate the existence of a rising trend, the bank reports. In addition to citing improvements in residential construction, Security points out that

REAL ESTATE sales advances reflected by increased deed recordings in the seven southern counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara and Ventura. Total recordings for last June in the seven-county area amounted to 38,614, the highest monthly level since August, 1965. Deed transfers in the same area increased from 175,045 for the last six months of last year to 179,593 for the first six months of this year.

Real estate loans made in the seven counties increased in number by 33.2 per cent and in dollar volume by 38.5

per cent in the second quarter of this year. There were 60,493 first-quarter loans for a total of \$1.3 billion, and 80,584 second-quarter loans amounted to \$1.8 billion.

MARKET PRICES of existing single-family dwellings have increased slightly this year, as measured on a market price index for "typical" homes in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. The six-county index registered at 126 last October and at 127 last April. It indicated a rising trend in Orange, Riverside and Santa Barbara counties; an even trend in Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties; and a slightly declining trend in Ventura County.

Home building costs in the Los Angeles area increased during the second quarter of 1967. The costs, measured by an index figure of 103 for the first quarter, rose one point to 104.

UNSOLD TRACT home inventories shrunk by 28 per cent during the first half of 1967 in the aforementioned six counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. The six-county

area's completed-but-unsold homes dwindled from 12,556 in December to 9,042 in June.

Vacant dwelling units in the same six counties have been decreasing steadily since August, 1965, according to a count of all homes in which utility services are not being used. In August, 1965, there were 159,843 idle meters. Last June, there were 115,097.

Mortgage interest rates declined moderately in the Los Angeles area this year. Rates for existing homes averaged at 6.87 per cent in January and at 6.53 in June. New home interest costs decreased from an average of 6.48 in January to an average of 6.25 in June.

Director To Leave On Oct. 8

SACRAMENTO—John Erreca, state director of public works, said his work would be completed in that department as of Oct. 8, when his successor, Samuel B. Nelson, recently named to the post by Governor Ronald Reagan, would take over.

Erreca said he met with Nelson, and the date was agreeable to both of them to insure orderly transition of department activities.

Nelson was former general manager and chief engineer of the department of water and power in Los Angeles. Erreca had served as director of the department since April 15, 1963.

Dance Class Slated

The waltz, tango, and other ballroom dances will be taught in an adult social dance course available to the public beginning Tuesday at the Senior Citizens Building at Redondo Beach City Park.

Under the direction of Lois Niseling, a former Arthur Murray instructor, students will meet weekly for two hours during the 10-week course and are guaranteed a basic knowledge of popular ballroom dances. Mrs. Nisel-

ing has taught dance for almost ten years.

Fee for the course is \$4 per person or \$8 per couple. It is one of a series of adult programs sponsored by the Redondo Beach Parks and Recreation Department.

One person in U. S. agriculture today supplies the food and fiber needs of 40 persons, compared with 26 in 1960, and 10 persons 30 years ago.

Mental Health Service To Give 'Crisis Clinic'

The South Bay Mental Health Service of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Council of Churches are jointly offering a 10-lesson course in "Crisis and Mental Illness Intervention Techniques" to the clergy of all faiths and denominations of the Centinela Valley South Bay area.

Mental Health Service, 13543 S. Hawthorne Blvd. Hours will be from 9 to 11:30 a.m. The faculty will present individual lectures and work sessions aimed at learning new health techniques. These new techniques are intended to enhance the clergyman's skills in helping congregants deal with emotional problems of living. Tuition is \$15.

The course will begin on Thursday, Oct. 5, at the headquarters of the South Bay

Further information may be obtained from the Rev. Francis A. Rath.



Don't Miss our Grand Opening in Rolling Hills Plaza!

Be our guest at the opening of B.H.F.S. newest branch office September 22 through October 10 at 25416 Crenshaw Blvd. Enjoy wonderful family entertainment by Ted Bowers and his "turn-of-the-century" group with performances: Friday, September 29, at 1:00, 2:30, 4:00 and 8:00 Saturday, September 30, at 11:00, 1:00, 2:30 and 4:00. Gifts and refreshments for everyone. (Register for our grand awards drawing on October 11—plus a special one for teenagers, 13 to 19 years). During these gala festivities, you'll have an opportunity to meet Bob Durell, a South Bay resident and manager of the new office, and his staff. They will be happy

to show you how practical saving the Beverly Hills Federal way can be. Your funds earn the high savings dividend rate of 5% (5.13% when left for a year and compounded daily). Of course accounts are insured up to \$15,000 by a Federal agency. And as a special added convenience, we will be open regularly Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Bring the whole family and join the fun at our Grand Opening. And for a happy future, open your Beverly Hills Federal account and earn the highest insured savings dividend rate in the nation.



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From Fleischmann: The Preferred Whiskey.



A lot of people like Fleischmann's Preferred. And they can tell you why. Most would say they simply like the way it tastes. For some, it's the 90 proof. For others, it's the value of Preferred. This is very fine whiskey—at a very decent price. A good many people might even tell you the important thing is the Fleischmann name. (And that's just the kind of confidence we've tried to create—every step of the way since 1870.) It's an easy whiskey to like.

90 Proof
As fine a whiskey as money can buy.
\$4.89 fifth
\$3.10 pint